

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claims 1-4 and add new Claims 5-11, below.

Claims 1-4 (Canceled).

5. (New) A joint socket for a hip endoprosthesis, comprising:
 - a socket shell configured to be implanted in the pelvic bone of a patient, the socket shell having an inner surface that defines an accommodating space extending about an axis of rotation; and
 - a socket insert configured to provide a bearing for a joint head of a prosthesis stem, a spherical outer surface of said socket insert configured to be disposed in the accommodating space of the socket shell and contact the inner surface along a line of contact that is concentric with the axis of rotation of the accommodating space, the socket insert coupleable in a self-locking manner within said accommodating space,
wherein the inner surface of the socket shell tapers toward a pole of the shell in the region of said line of contact in such a manner that a radius of curvature in the said region is greater than the spherical radius of the outer surface of said socket insert.
6. (New) The joint socket of Claim 5, wherein the inner surface has a conical shape and defines an infinite radius of curvature in the region of said line of contact.
7. (New) The joint socket of Claim 6, wherein a cone angle of said conically narrowing inner surface is a self-locking angle corresponding to a material pairing of said socket shell and said socket insert.
8. (New) The joint socket of Claim 7, wherein the cone angle of said conical inner surface is between about 4° and 10°.
9. (New) The joint socket of Claim 7, wherein the cone angle of said conical inner surface is about 4.5°.
10. (New) The joint socket of Claim 7, wherein the cone angle of said conical inner surface is about 9.5°.
11. (New) A method for implanting a joint socket for a hip endoprosthesis, comprising:
 - inserting a socket shell in a pelvic bone, the socket shell having a conical inner surface that defines an accommodating space extending about an axis of rotation;

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loosely inserting a socket insert into the accommodating space so that an outer surface of the socket insert comes into contact with the conical inner surface;
rotating the socket insert within the accommodating space to a desired position;
tilting the socket insert within the accommodating space to a desired position; and
pressing the socket insert into the accommodating space to engage the socket insert with the socket shell in a self-locking manner.